Minutes Woodstock Agriculture Commission Monday, June 15, 2015 - 1:00 - Woodstock Town Hall, Lower Level Conference Room

Present: Members: R. Seybolt, S. Morse, L. Weaver. Alternates: P. Miller, L. Auger, J. Hermonot

- **I.** Call to order: Meeting was called to order by R. Seybolt at 1:04PM.
- **II. Assignment of Alternates** Jon Hermonot assigned as member.
- III. Public Participation none
- **IV. Minutes of the June meeting:** L. Weaver moved to accept the minutes, J. Hermonot seconded. Voted and approved.

V. Old Business:

- a. Accessory Apartments Ordinances from NJ, Windsor, Guilford and Killingly were briefly reviewed. Will wait on more information from J. Nichols.
- b. WINY **Action:** L. Auger to speak with some local restaurants to see if they use Woodstock or local farms to procure any ingredients for their restaurants. This will be in anticipation of the topic of Farm to Table as a topic for August 18th.
- c. Schools & Business Buy Local S. Morse submitted final draft for approval. The website, Dear Woodstock Neighbor for salutation, Date of July and signature to be added. **Action:** Members to email S. Morse with suggestions as to where to mail the letter.
- d. Town Owned Properties Map -tabled.
- e. Woodstock Grown Brochure R. Seybolt requested that the words Celebrating Agriculture be in bold, remove the section on the Agvocate Program, since it basically doesn't exist anymore and replace with the first paragraph (amended) of the Schools and Business Buy Local letter. **Action:** L. Auger to make changes and send for printing and will ensure the bill be submitted for approval and payment before June 30.
- f. CC Town Ag Lease Proposal tabled.
- g. Legislative Session P. Miller gave a brief report. We need to wait to see how the vote goes and then the negotiations with the Governor's office. He was fairly optimistic that the CIA grants would not be hit too badly.
- h. Farmers Feeding Families P. Miller attended the movie viewing of *Brunswick* at the Woodstock Academy. Very few participants at the Ag trade show. He stressed how important it was and will be to have a farmer's prospective at such events, including the upcoming book review of *Gaining Ground*.

VI. New Business:

- a. Banner L. Weaver moved to approve the expenditure for a Woodstock Agriculture banner to be used a events. S. Morse seconded and it was voted and approved. Action: L. Auger will send the request and design to 101 Business Solutions for print and will request the bill be submitted for payment before the end of June.
- **b.** Setting Priorities After much discussion, members decided to tackle Town Owned Properties 1st, Equestrian Academies 2nd, Labor and Accessory housing 3rd. **Action:** R. Seybolt to get back to J. Gordon and since this is a complicated issue, it will require some time to research and discuss.

VII. Other:

- a. The WAGC will support the formation of a Regional Winter Farmers Market.
- **b.** Correspondence received from D. Fey regarding our position on re-use of agriculture sites and pesticide residue. **Action:** R. Seybolt to ask J. Nichols for guidance and respond to D. Fey that we feel we are not correct entity to deal with this.
- VIII. The meeting was adjourned by R. Seybolt at 2:45 pm. Seconded by J. Hermonot. The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 20, 2015 at 1pm in the lower level of the conference room of the Town Hall.